



Maryland Department of Environment
Water Management Administration
Compliance Program - Eastern Division
407 Race St, Cambridge, MD 21613
410-901-4020

Field Inspection Report by: Michele Burroughs

Media Type(s): NPDES Municipal Minor Surface Water

Inspection Date: June 3, 2010

Site Name: Assateague Island-National Seashore HQ WWTP

Facility Address: 7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD 21811

County: Worcester County

NPDES Municipal Minor Surface Water

Contact(s): Steve Main, Superintendent, National Park Service
Ish Ennis, Maintenance Manager, National Park Service

Recommended Action: Corrections Needed

Inspection Reason: Routine Scheduled

Inspection Findings:

Mr. Steve Main called and left a message regarding the notification process for the use of brown water. A site inspection was completed and found the facility not discharging. The system consists of a bar screen, followed by an equalization tank, and aerobic tank, anoxic tanks, and a reaeration tank. The effluent from the reaeration tanks is filtered through two parallel basket filters prior to treatment by 4 Berghof ultrafilters. The permeate from the ultrafilters is disinfected with 2 UV units, followed by a 2000 gallon vertical tank.

Mr. Main stated that the process has been shutting down every day due to clogged basket filters. Mr. Main stated that they are cleaning the basket filters three times per day, and the system is still shutting down daily. When the system "shuts down", the aerators continue to run, resulting in elevated dissolved oxygen in the anoxic tanks, and the loss of the anoxic biomass. Mr. Main stated that the basket filters were cleaned at 6 am, and by 12:30 pm at the time of the inspection, the filters were blinded with paper-like fibers. In addition, Mr. Main stated that the UF pump was still running at very low flowrates, resulting in the plugging of the UFs. Mr. Main stated that the UF had to be manually cleaned, which is an arduous procedure. Mr. Main stated that programming changes were made so that when the basket filters are blinded, no wastewater is processed through the UFs. In addition, the flow meter reads that there is effluent flow when there is no discharge. Mr. Main stated that the flow meter was scheduled to be replaced next week.

Mr. Main checked the most recent laboratory results and reported that the MLSS was 3965, and the MLVSS was 3137. Due to the plant shutting down and loss of anoxic biomass, Mr. Main stated that they had recently brought in a load of sludge from the Landings to reseed the plant.

NPDES Municipal Minor Surface Water - Inspection Checklist

<i>Inspection Item</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1. Does the facility have a discharge permit? [Environment Article §9-323a(1-3)]	No Violations Observed	

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2. Is the discharge permit current? Has facility applied for renewal? [Environment Article §9-328a(1)]	No Violations Observed	
3. Is the facility as described in the current permit? Are treatment processes as described in the current permit? [COMAR 26.08.04.01.01B(4)]	No Violations Observed	
4. Has notification been submitted about any new, different or increased discharges? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.42.b(1-3)]	No Violations Observed	
5. Is the number and location of discharge points as described in the discharge permit? [Environment Article §9-3314]	No Violations Observed	
6. Has permittee submitted correct name and address of receiving waters? [40 CFR 122.21.j(3)]	No Violations Observed	
7. Is the permittee meeting the compliance schedule per permit requirements? [COMAR 26.08.04.02-1.02-1A(3)]	No Violations Observed	
8. Has the operator or superintendent been certified by the Board in the appropriate classification for the facility? [COMAR 26.06.01.05A(1)]	Not Evaluated	
9. Are adequate records being maintained for the sampling date, time, and exact location; analysis dates and times; individual performing analysis; and analytical results? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03B(3)(a, b, c, e)]	Not Evaluated	
10. Are adequate records being maintained for the analytical methods/techniques used? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03B(3)(d)]	Not Evaluated	
11. Does the permittee retained a minimum of 3 years worth of monitoring records including raw data and original strip chart recordings; calibration and maintenance records; and reports? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03B(1)]	Not Evaluated	
12. Is the lab and monitoring equipment being properly calibrated and maintained? Are they keeping records to reflect this? [Environment Article §9-3313]	Not Evaluated	
13. Is laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures properly operated and maintained? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.41.e]	Not Evaluated	
14. Has the permittee submitted the monitoring results on the proper Discharge Monitoring Report form? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03C(1)]	Not Evaluated	
15. Has the permittee submitted these results within the allotted time? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03C(2)]	Not Evaluated	

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16. Are discharge monitoring reports complete and reflect permit conditions? [COMAR 26.08.04.03B(3)]	Not Evaluated	
17. Is the facility being properly operated and maintained including:(a) stand-by power or equivalent provisions available, (b) adequate alarm system for power or equipment failure available, (c) all treatments units are in service, . [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.41.e]	Out of Compliance	Please refer to findings.
18. Is sewage sludge managed correctly per permit requirements? [COMAR 26.04.06.03.03]	No Violations Observed	
19. Any by-pass since last inspection? Has permittee submitted notice of any by-pass? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.41.m(4)(i)(C)]	No Violations Observed	
20. Any non-complying discharges experienced since last inspection? Has regulatory agency been notified? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.41.l(6)]	Not Evaluated	
21. Have overflows occurred since the last inspection? [COMAR 26.08.10.02A]	No Violations Observed	
22. Has records of overflows been maintained at the facility for at least five years? [COMAR 26.08.10.06A-B]	No Violations Observed	
23. Are flow measuring devices properly installed and operated, calibration frequency of flow meter adequate, flow measurement equipment adequate to handle expected ranges of flow? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart C Section 122.41.e]	Out of Compliance	Please refer to findings.
24. Are discharge monitoring points adequate for representative sampling? Do parameters and sampling frequency meet the minimum requirements? Does the permittee use the method of sample collection required by the permit? [Environment Article §9-331(4)]	No Violations Observed	
25. Are analytical testing procedures approved by EPA? If alternate analytical procedures are used, proper approval has been obtained? [COMAR 26.08.01.02B(1)]	No Violations Observed	
26. Has the permittee notified the Department of the name and address of the commercial laboratory? [COMAR 26.08.04.03.03A(3)]	No Violations Observed	
27. Were discharges observed at the authorized outfalls? Does the facility have any unauthorized discharges to waters of the State? [Environment Article §9-322]	Not Applicable	

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28. Does the discharges or receiving waters have any visible pollutants (oil sheen, grease, turbidity, foam, floating solids, color), odor, noncompliant DO concentrations, and/or noncompliant temperature ranges? [Environment Article §9-314b(1)]	Not Applicable	
29. Were discharge samples collected? [Environment Article §9-261c(1)]	Not Evaluated	
30. Is the facility required to have a storm water pollution prevention plan? Has storm water pollution prevention plan been developed and implemented as required? Does storm water pollution prevention plan require modifications to prevent runoff of pollutants? [40 CFR Part 122 Subpart B Section 122.26.c(1)(I)(A-B)]	Not Applicable	
31. Are the permit conditions being met? [Environment Article §9-326a(1)]	Out of Compliance	Please refer to findings.

Corrective Actions:

1. Mr. Main is advised that all unit operations should be capable of operating continuously, as designed, in order to maintain both the oxic and anoxic biomass in the plant. If reasonable preventative maintenance measures are unable to keep the plant operating properly, replacement of the equipment, in particular, the bar screen, would be recommended.
2. Mr. Main is advised that the flow meters should be calibrated after installation and on an annual basis.
3. Assateague Island National Park is requested to submit a proposal for review for the reuse of the brown water to be used for toilet flushing in the new visitors center. The proposal should include the quality and quantity of brown water to be used, and the approved plumbing approval to accommodate this water reuse. The proposal can reference that the drawings submitted for the wastewater treatment plant construction included the plumbing for the brown water reuse. The proposal should be submitted to MDE, Water Management Administration, Attn: Dr. Tien, 1800 Washington Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21230.

Inspector: _____
 Michele Burroughs

Received by: _____